

Application No.: 10/668,883

Docket No.: 61843(51035)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (original): A method for increasing food and energy uptake from a livestock feed by livestock comprising:

administering to the livestock a feed having an effective amount of hop acid capable of decreasing the production of unoxidized carbon sources in a digestive system fluid of the livestock.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein the hop acids are is selected from at least one of the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, isoalpha acids, rho-isoalpha acids, tetrahydroisoalpha acids and hexahydroisoalpha acids.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 7 wherein the alpha acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of humulone, cohumulone, and adhumulone.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the beta acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of lupulone, colupulone, and adlupulone.

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Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein the amount of hop acid is 2 ppm of digestive system fluid.

Claim 11 (original):): The method of claim 6 wherein the livestock is selected from the group consisting of cattle, horses, pigs, and zoo animals.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 ~~and further comprising administering wherein~~ the hop acid is capable of increasing the level of propionate in the digestive system fluid.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the hop acids are selected from at least one of the group consisting of alpha acids and beta acids.

Claim 18 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a ruminant.

Claim 19 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a cow.

Claim 20 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a poultry or fowl.

Claim 21 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a chicken, duck, pheasant or turkey.

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Claim 22 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a pig.

Claim 23 (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the livestock is a horse.